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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Director of Planning

At its meeting held March 9, 2004, the Board took the following action:

38-A

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

"The wildfire last October severely damaged or destroyed more than forty homes in the unincorporated area of North Claremont, leaving many residents homeless and their lives devastated. To appropriately address the rebuilding issues, the County must evaluate a number of zoning, land use, and infrastructure concerns in Palmer Canyon before homes can be rebuilt.

"The County of Los Angeles is committed to assisting the burned-out residents with the permitting process. In this regard the staff of several County departments is working diligently so that support and assistance proceeds in an efficient and timely fashion. At the same time the County has a legal obligation to address land use and environmental issues, which include constraints imposed by the existing General Plan and zoning designations for properties in Palmer Canyon.

"The most effective means of addressing the General Plan and zoning issues which are unique is to develop a Palmer Canyon Community Standards District (CSD). The CSD is necessary for this area since the scope of land use and zoning issues in Palmer Canyon cannot be appropriately addressed within the framework of the existing General Plan and countywide zoning code. The CSD must consider the unique character of Palmer Canyon as well as the long history of development in the canyon. The CSD must also examine the existing Zoning and General Plan classifications and look at opportunities to improve the existing conditions and standards for rebuilding."

(Continued on Page 2)

38-A (Continued)

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried (Supervisor Knabe being absent), the Board directed the Director of Planning to:

1. Work with the Palmer Canyon Association of property owners, surrounding community members, public health and safety agencies, etc. and prepare a draft Community Standards District, any necessary zone changes or plan amendments, and the appropriate environmental document; and
2. Set the matter for a public hearing before the Regional Planning Commission as soon as the Department completes the necessary staff work; and
3. Report back to the Board every 30 days with a status report containing the Department's findings, recommendations, and actions to date.

02030904-38-A

Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor
County Counsel
Chief Administrative Officer
Chairperson, Regional Planning Commission



Los Angeles County
Department of Regional Planning

Planning for the Challenges Ahead



April 21, 2005

James E. Hartl, AICP
Director of Planning

TO: Supervisor Gloria Molina, Chair
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: James E. Hartl, AICP
Director of Planning

SUBJECT: PALMER CANYON COMMUNITY STANDARDS DISTRICT (CSD)

On March 9, 2004, your Board approved a motion by Supervisor Antonovich, directing the Department of Regional Planning (DRP) to prepare a CSD, any necessary zone changes or general plan amendments and the appropriate environmental document relating to rebuilding in Palmer Canyon.

Your Board's motion also instructed DRP to proceed expeditiously with this project, work with the Palmer Canyon Association of property owners, other community members, public health and safety agencies and other County departments, and report progress made to your Board every thirty days.

Since our last report on March 15, 2005, DRP has continued to work towards obtaining feedback from other County departments and Palmer Canyon residents whose input in the restoration of destroyed structures in Palmer Canyon is vital. These departments include Public Works, Fire, County Counsel and Health Services.

As we have reported to your Board in recent monthly reports, a consensus between the County Counsel and the attorney for the Homeowners' Association regarding the environmental impacts of the project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) has been very difficult to achieve. Meetings and discussions between the two sides have yet to lead to a resolution of this issue. Without such resolution, none of the projects facilitating the reconstruction of burned Canyon homes can be processed, including the CSD. In addition, the Homeowners Association is working towards producing a Tract Map which would place lots in their true location, thus allowing for proposed standards to be designed to address current and future, not past community needs. As soon as these two issues have been resolved, work on the CSD will resume.

If you have any questions, please call me or Andy Malakates of my staff at 974 – 6476.

JEH: AM

- c. Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Director of Public Works
Director of Health Services
Fire Chief